

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00
EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 L-03 NSF-01 NSAE-00 SS-15
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CORRECTED COPY (MRN SHOULD READ 284227 VICE 284277)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: 32ND UNOA, EGEN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA: SECOND COMMITTEE: HABITAT (ITEM 12)

REF: USUN 4839

1. AS INDICATED REFTTEL, WE ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING A
SOLUTION OF HABITAT INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT AT THIS
SESSION, BASED ON A BROAD CONSENSUS. SINCE THE PREPONDER-
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ANCE OF SENTIMENT NOW APPEARS TO SUPPORT SOLUTION BASED ON
A/C.2/32/L.41, WE ARE PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH OTHERS IN
SEEKING CONSENSUS DECISION BASED ON IT. WE SUPPORT THE
GENEVA COMPROMISE RELUCTANTLY, BUT REALIZE IT IS THE ONLY
CHANCE FOR A CONSENSUS. WE WOULD LIKE, HOWEVER, TO OBTAIN
AMENDMENTS TO CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN CURRENT TEXT, MAINLY
TO STRENGTHEN LINK BETWEEN HABITAT AND REST OF SYSTEM. WE

REFER PARTICULARLY TO:

2. COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENT. THE PROVISIONS IN THE CURRENT TEXT - I.E., II-2 AND II-7 ARE INCONSISTENT. II-2 MAKES THE COMMISSION A CREATURE OF ECOSOC, WHICH IS STRUCTURAL ARRANGEMENT WE PREFER. THEREFORE, II-7 SHOULD HAVE THE COMMISSION REPORTING TO ECOSOC, RATHER THAN THROUGH IT TO UNGA - AS IT NOW READS.

3. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HABITAT SECRETARIAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND UN SECRETARIAT. III-9 OF CURRENT DRAFT HAS EXEC DIRECTOR REPORTING TO UN SYG. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS FORMULATION WAS PRODUCED IN LAST ECOSOC SESSION AS RESULT OF G-77 ANTAGONISM TO UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL OF ESA AND UNWILLINGNESS TO HAVE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUBORDINATE TO HIM. HOWEVER, IN ESTABLISHING HABITAT, WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO AVOID AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ADDING TO THE FRAGMENTATION OF UN SYSTEM ACTIVITIES IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS. WE ASSUME THAT FOR THIS PURPOSE THE G-77 MIGHT BE WILLING TO ACCEPT A LINK BETWEEN THE PROPOSED DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION IN THE UN RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE, AND THE HABITAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. SINCE THE RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE IS NOT FAR ENOUGH ADVANCED TO MAKE THAT KIND OF CONNECTION EXPLICIT, WE WOULD SUGGEST HAVING A PROVISION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUCH AS ONE THAT CALLS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO REPORT TO "A SENIOR OFFICIAL DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL." WE WOULD LEAVE UNSPECIFIED AT THIS TIME WHO THAT OFFICIAL MIGHT BE.

5. IN DISCUSSING THESE CHANGES WITH OTHER DELS, YOU MAY NOTE THAT IN VIEW OF OUR INTEREST IN GETTING A HABITAT SOLUTION AT THIS SESSION AND IN LIGHT OF BROAD SUPPORT FOR A/C.2/32/L 41, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER IT FAVORABLY. HOWEVER, OUR WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT IT WOULD BE MUCH STRENGTHENED IF WE COULD GET AGREEMENT ON AMENDMENTS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

- --YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO NOTE THAT:
- --VANCOUVER CONFERENCE AND DISCUSSION WHICH PRECEDED IT ESTABLISHED CLEAR CONSENSUS AGAINST ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW AND SEPARATE AGENCY FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENT. ARRANGEMENT OUTLINED IN A/C.2/32/L 41 COMES CLOSE TO DOING WHAT MOST CLAIMED THEY WISHED TO AVOID.
- --WE WANT AN ARRANGEMENT FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS THAT

WILL BODE WELL FOR THE SUCCESS OF ITS FUTURE OPERATIONS. WE BELIEVE ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS OF SUCCESS WILL BE AS STRONG A LINK AS IS POLITICALLY FEASIBLE WITH DEVELOPMENT SIDE OF UN. PROPOSED LOCATION IN NAIROBI, WHICH WE HAVE AGREED TO WITH CONSIDERABLE RELUCTANCE, WILL WEAKEN STILL FURTHER THE ALREADY TENUOUS LINK DESCRIBED IN CURRENT DRAFT. IN OUR VIEW, STRONGER INSTITUTIONAL TIE TO DEVELOPMENT SIDE IS NECESSARY TO COMPENSATE FOR DISADVANTAGES OF LOCATION. THIS SAME REASONING UNDERLIES OUR DESIRE TO HAVE COMMISSION REPORT TO ECOSOC.

6. RE DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS ON COMMISSION, WE WOULD WANT SAME FORMULA AS UNEP GC - I.E., 16 AFRICANS; 13 ASIANS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(INCLUDING JAPAN AND CHINA); 10 LATIN AMERICAN; 6 EASTERN EUROPEAN AND 13 WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS.

- --CONCERTED ACTION AND COORDINATION. THE CURRENT DRAFT HAS DROPPED TWO PARAGRAPHS WHICH HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN EARLIER VERSIONS WHICH HAD BEEN CIRCULATED IN GENEVA, AND WHICH GO BACK TO VANCOUVER. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE THEM INCORPORATED IN L41. THE ARE:

- --"RECOMMENDS THAT THERE MUST BE A SUSTAINED AND DETERMINED EFFORT ON THE PART OF ALL ORGANIZATIONS MOST CLOSELY CONCERNED WITH HUMAN SETTLEMENT, BOTH AT REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS, TO CONCERT THEIR PLANNED PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS."

- --RECOMMENDS FURTHER THAT THE EXISTING MECHANISM OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION MUST

BE STRENGTHENED TO ENSURE THAT COORDINATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS IS EFFECTIVE THROUGHOUT THE UN SYSTEM.

7. NATIONALITY OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. WE ARE NOT AWARE THAT THIS SUBJECT HAS EVER BEEN DISCUSSED, AND WE DO NOT PROPOSE THAT YOU RAISE IT. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HABITAT SHOULD COME FROM INDUSTRIALIZED WESTERN COUNTRY. YOU SHOULD KEEP THIS IN MIND AS NEGOTIATING PROCESS UNFOLDS.

8. NGO RESOLUTION. PLEASE CHECK WITH DUTCH TO SEE IF THEY PLAN TO RESUBMIT SAME NGO RESOLUTION THEY HAD IN GENEVA. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CO-SPONSORING, BUT WOULD HAVE CHANGES TO SUGGEST IF THEY PLAN ON USING SAME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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